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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of July, 1985)

The total number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters took a dramatic step upward during the month of July, increasing by twenty-six crews. According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest monthly report, the July total was 397, up from 371 in June. The twenty-six crew increase was the largest monthly increase since one year ago (July, 1984) when the total increased by twenty-nine crews.

The July total (397) represents an increase of 7% over last month, a 25% decrease from July, 1984, an 18% decrease from July, 1983, a 33% decrease from July, 1982, a 44% decrease from July, 1981, a 29% decrease from July, 1980, and a 2% decrease from the same month in 1979.

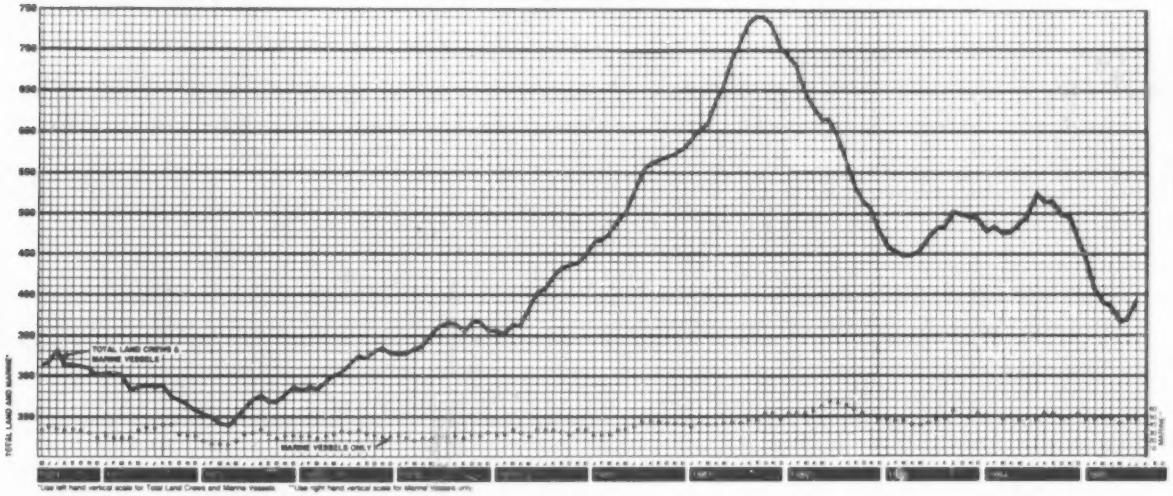
During July, eleven contractors were operating nineteen of the 317 land crews and six of the forty-one vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	July 84	July 83	July 82	July 81	July 80	July 79
	397	371	529	483	593	711	556	407

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	July 1984	July 1983	July 1982	July 1981	July 1980	July 1979	This Mo.	Last Mo.	July 1984	July 1983	July 1982	July 1981	July 1980	July 1979
73 Contr's:	317	294	445	397	484	625	475	337	41	40	39	41	58	36	35	26
9 Oil Co's:	33	30	37	40	43	43	39	39	6	6	7	5	7	6	6	4
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1
Totals	350	324	482	437	527	668	514	376	47	47	47	46	66	43	42	31

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



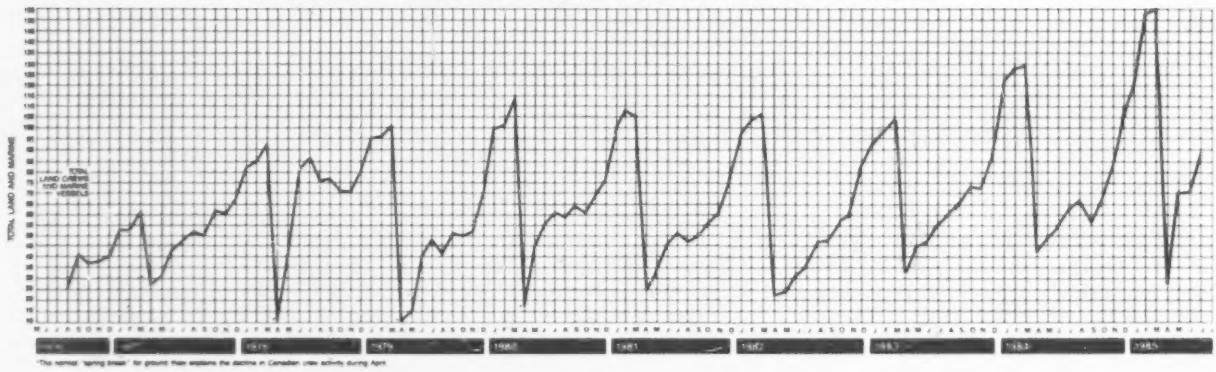
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

JULY, 1985 (June figures in parentheses)

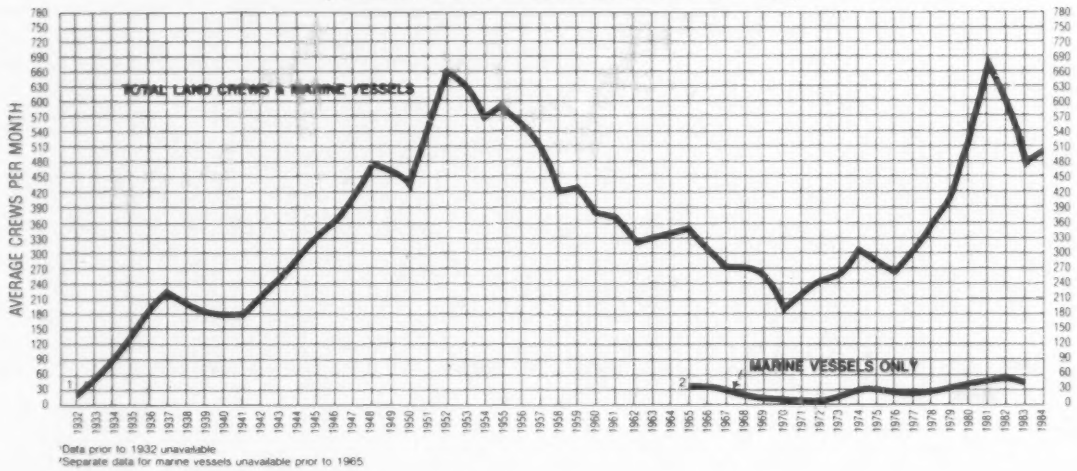
	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
35 Contractors:	77 (63)	8 (5)
2 Oil Companies:	3 (3)	0 (0)
Totals:	80 (66)	8 (5)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed in part by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(SEISMIC CREWS SEARCHING FOR OIL & GAS)



[1]Data prior to 1932 unavailable
[2]Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965